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(54) Multiple interface connection device and method for reconfiguring standard PC-card interface

(57) An apparatus and method which overcomes connectivity limitations on PCMCIA and PC-CARD95 compatible devices by reconfiguring standard PCMCIA and PC-CARD pins for additional electrical interfaces. A detection circuit in the PC-card can detect the different interfaces. Once the different interfaces are identified, the connections to the receptacles of the PC-card connector are reconfigured such that the functional assignments of the receptacles conform with the requirements of each different interface. Thus, connection between different electrical interfaces to the physical interface of a PCMCIA-compatible device, without interference between them is possible. This eliminates the need for extra connectors other than the standard PCMCIA and PC-CARD95 connector. Thus, more versatile products with enhanced connectivity may be designed which use the PCMCIA and PC-CARD95 standards.

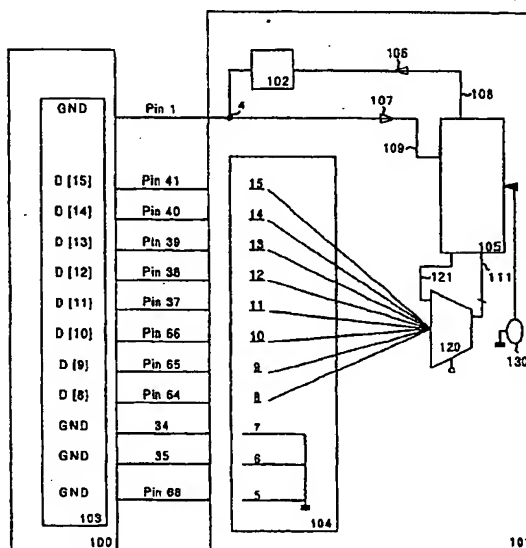


FIG. 1



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EUROPEAN SEARCH REPORT

Application Number
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Category	Citation of document with indication, where appropriate, of relevant passages	Relevant to claim	CLASSIFICATION OF THE APPLICATION* (Int.Cl.6)
A	WO 96 27836 A (P. CHARLES) 12 September 1996 (1996-09-12) * page 1, line 1 - page 6, line 5 * * page 20, line 3 - line 22; figures 1-3 * ---	1-17	G06F13/40
A	US 5 604 870 A (MOSS ET AL) 18 February 1997 (1997-02-18) * column 2, line 29 - column 6, line 21; figure 1 * ---	1,15	
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			TECHNICAL FIELDS SEARCHED (Int.Cl.6)
			G06F H05K
The present search report has been drawn up for all claims			
Place of search THE HAGUE		Date of completion of the search 12 January 2000	Examiner Soler, J
<p>CATEGORY OF CITED DOCUMENTS</p> <p>X : particularly relevant if taken alone Y : particularly relevant if combined with another document of the same category A : technological background O : non-written disclosure P : intermediate document</p> <p>T : theory or principle underlying the invention E : earlier patent document, but published on, or after the filing date D : document cited in the application L : document cited for other reasons & : member of the same patent family corresponding document</p>			

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**ANNEX TO THE EUROPEAN SEARCH REPORT
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